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Carolina Country®

A typical rural home is twice as likely to burn to the ground than its city counterpart if ignited by lightning. For tips on protecting your home from nature's most destructive force, *see story, pages 12-13.*

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Tune Into Load Management.

North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation

VIEWPOINT

tility Subsidies: The Rest Of The Story

The following editorial was written by Sloan, executive vice president of Crescent ric Membership Corporation, Statesville chairman of the North Carolina Rural Elec- ation Authority. It is reprinted from the 's consumer newsletter, The Conductor.

I read a recent article in the *Wall Street al,* the newspaper of big business, that a swipe at the rural electric program. It a big deal out of the rural electric coopera- being "subsidized" by the federal govern- because they can get 5 percent loans gh the Rural Electrification Administra- (REA) Revolving Fund. The very biased e, however, didn't bother to tell the whole of electric utility financing.

All electric utilities—investor-owned, city- d and rural electric systems—receive sig- nt assistance from the federal government. Here is a rundown of the assistance each of utility gets:

- Investor-owned electric utilities: They ve total assistance of $5,299,550,000 (yes, s over $5 billion) in accelerated depreciа- nd investment tax credits. It is, in effect, est-free loans for that amount each year. ing by their over 80 million consumers s investor-owned electric utilities enjoy *nnual assistance per consumer of $65.70.*
- City-owned electric systems: They have s to tax-free bond financing that amounts 127,044,000 (over $1 billion) which, divided by their over 12 million consum- ives city-owned electrics *an annual ance per consumer of $92.66.*
- Rural electric systems: We have access to reduced interest rate loans through REA amounting to total assistance of $572,576,000 (about half a billion dollars). When divided by the 11 million rural electric member-consumers, the rural electric co-ops have *an annual assistance per consumer of $51.38.*

Here's another little figure to let you know how tough it is in the rural electric business—the number of members per mile of line.

A meter is like a cash register. It is someone using electricity and the meter measuring that use. Since it should cost about the same to build a mile of line everywhere, it makes sense that the more meters per mile of line, the more money the utility will have coming in.

Rural electric systems have, on a national average, *five meters per mile of line,* earning an average of $5,400 a year per mile of line. Investor-owned electric utilities have a national average of *30 meters per mile of line* with an annual income of about $45,000 per mile of line. City-owned systems have about *65 meters per mile of line,* earning $79,100 annually for every mile of line.

The sources of my figures were the *REA Annual Statistical Report, 1988* and *Financial Statistics of Selected Electric Utilities, 1988....*

So, if anyone is going to take a poke at one part of the electric industry for being subsidized, they should hit them all, because truth of the matter is that all electric utilities receive some federal assistance, with the rural electric systems receiving the least and having the least amount of income per mile of line.

ectricity's Convenience: Worth The Price

Excerpted from an editorial by Ray Clifton, utive director of Colorado Rural Electric iation. It originally appeared in the asso- n's magazine, Colorado Country Life.

There's a lot of talk these days about the f electricity, rate increases, coal, clean air eally, the future of central station genera- f electricity.

Regardless of how these issues may be resolved, or how methods of operation may be modified, I believe that electricity will continue to be the safest, most efficient way of distributing energy.

Isn't a central generating station more economical and convenient than a lot of small, independent, individual sources of energy? ...

There are some who advocate going back

(continued on page 26)

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Carolina Country

(ISSN 0008-6746)
Read Monthly In More Than 335,000 Homes
Volume 22, No. 8, August, 1990

Official Publication
North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, Inc.
P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611

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Carolina Country (formerly *Carolina Farmer*) is published by the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, Inc. Second class postage paid at Raleigh, NC, and additional mailing office. Editorial Offices: P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611, (919) 872-0800. *Carolina Country* is a registered trademark of the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, Inc.

Postmaster: Send form 3579 to P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611. EMC group subscription $2.61 a year; individual, $3.00.

Address all mail to *Carolina Country*, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611.

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Should you encounter advertising that does not comply with these standards, please inform the editor at P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611, (919) 872-0800.

Cover: "The Love of Granny"

Our cover this month is one of the latest paintings by Pamela C. Renfroe of Bowman, GA, whose painting of a country store, "Rural Memories," appeared on our cover in April, 1989.

This one, offering a 1940s era rural scene, is titled "The Love of Granny." It was prepared especially for use by *Carolina Country*.

Mrs. Renfroe, a native of Anderson, SC, is a former resident of Charlotte. She has been painting professionally since 1978 and for several years ran an art gallery and frame shop with her husband in Elberton, GA. She exhibits in about 25 art shows each year.

In 1985, Mrs. Renfroe did a painting for Georgia Electric Membership Corporation (EMC) to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Rural Electrification Administration. Titled, "REA—Lighting The Way," the painting was featured on the cover of Georgia EMC's monthly consumer magazine.

The artist currently offers signed-and-numbered limited edition prints of several of her paintings, including "The Love of Granny."

A companion print that was issued along with "Granny" is another country store scene, titled "Time Stands Still." That color image is reproduced here in black and white.

In each case, the print has an image size of 18 inches by 15 inches and copies are $47 each, including shipping and handling.

Prints of "Rural Memories" sold out earlier this year.

Mail orders should be sent to The Renfroe Collection of Fine Art, Box 2, Bowman, GA 30624. For phone orders using major credit cards, call (404) 245-5357.

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EDITOR'S LETTER

Readers,

ome of our readers have raised questions about the limited edition hat's being offered of "The Carousel's Patriot," which was on our cover last month.

Our treatment of the Mary Ann Hanson painting used an oval detail of the image. However, the prints will have no such oval "matting" effect.

We've reproduced the full image here to show you how it will appear on the signed-and-numbered prints. They will feature an image size of 11″ x 14″ on 17″ x 22″ paper. They're priced at $30 each, including shipping charges. To order a copy, write to lanson at 7405 Quail Hollow Drive, Raleigh, NC 27609. Allow four weeks for delivery.

lary Lewis Deans of Rocky Mount, whose book *Like The Moon* was ved in our May issue, has kindly written us two "thank you" notes: r the review and one for copies of that edition which were mailed home.

he pointed out that her mother, "who is approaching the 39th rsary of her 39th birthday," opened the package of magazines. Her delight exceeded mine—and I was pretty delighted myself. At his morning, she called me. She said, 'I woke up about 2:00 and I n't go back to sleep. While I was lying there I got to thinking about rson who mailed you those magazines. You know, there are some nd gracious strangers floating around out there. That's nice to think '"

andra Ward, one of our graphics assistants, handled the mailing se she took the call when Mrs. Deans telephoned to ask for extra s of the issue.

he author said she wanted us to know that our response "pro- pleasant thoughts for a terrific little old lady at 2:00 this morning. you."

n the second note, Mrs. Deans describes the homegrown publish- eration that produced her book as its first title. She called the new e "publishing gone 'country' " to publish books especially for ry folks.

lere's the note:

Thank you for reviewing *Like the Moon* in *Carolina Country*. Your lous little magazine reaches the very people I write about and for. My literary friends tease me and say that I write for a group of peo- o don't read. But they are wrong. Those country folks do read. I they read *Carolina Country*. They have been vigorously ordering *e Moon* on the basis of your review. . . .

Rosa Leonard and I began Flatrock Books almost as a tongue-in- statement—publishing gone 'country.' We felt that there was a t for entertaining books about decent everyday people. Flatrock is a moonlight effort. To our utter astonishment, *Like the Moon* red its printing costs in twelve weeks. Flatrock Books is in the We are now working on two manuscripts and dickering for a third. We are about to quit laughing at ourselves and to begin believing that Flatrock Books is real.

"Since I make my living in the trucking world, I tend to see all things as compared to the trucking industry. When trucking was deregulated in the early 1980s, a swarm of independent truckers appeared on the highways. The poorly managed big trucking lines couldn't handle the competition. They went under. The well managed major trucking lines are still with us. The majority of the independent truckers lacked the capital and the business smarts to stay afloat. A few survived.

"Now I read that the publishing industry is in chaos. Recent advances in computer technology have made it possible for nearly any idiot with a few thousand dollars to get into the publishing business—equivalent to deregulation of trucking. These idiots, Rosa and I among them, have no marketing network. I doubt that country publishers are yet creating any real competition for the established publishing industry. Still, I'm beginning to have a tiny, tiny hope that Rosa and I are on the leading edge of a trend that will democratize publishing.

Flatrock Books may go the way of the undercapitalized and naive independent truckers. It would be a dream come true if Flatrock Books and many similar establishments developed and thrived in rural North Carolina.

"When you review a locally published book, any locally published book, you are helping market it. You are giving substance to the dream. Thank you."

Like the Moon is available for $8.35, including tax and shipping, from Flatrock Books, 15 Goose Creek, Rocky Mount, NC 27804. Phone: (919) 446-9508.

We must apologize to A. P. Sabol of Rt. 7, Louisburg, whose name was misspelled in the July issue's "Mailbox" column. He wrote the lead letter, which commented on an item that appeared in the May issue. Sabol is a consumer-member of Wake Electric Membership Corporation, Wake Forest.

Best regards,

Owen Bishop

Ashe County Family Took "Great Delight" In Getting Co-op Electric Service In '47

The following letter was addressed to J. C. Brown, editor of Rural Electrification *magazine and* Rural Electric Newsletter, *publications of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. The letter was written in response to Brown's editorial "Does The USA Still Need REA?" The piece originally appeared in* Rural Electric Newsletter *and was reprinted in the June issue of* Carolina Country.

Thank you for your Viewpoint column in the June, 1990, issue of *Carolina Country.* You are certainly right on target in everything you said.

Let me recall 1945, when we moved to my grandfather's farm in Ashe County. We had electric appliances which had been used at our old home in Virginia and no electricity. My mother talked and talked to the then private electric companies and no one would furnish electric power to that part of rural Ashe County.

In about 1947, REA ran a line to our home to our great delight and my mother's heartfelt thanks.

I will never forget that day "when the lights came on," and will support the REA in whatever way I can.

I will also not forget that a crew came out to my home on a Sunday afternoon, in driving rain, just after Hurricane Hugo last fall and worked to res my power.

Thanks for good service, Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation.

Cliff Stamper, Morg

Couple Seeks Suggestions For Coping With "Pesky" Deer F

We moved to Gates County last August from Chesapeake, V really enjoy your magazine and we love country living. But the d flies are eating us up! Any suggestions from your readers would greatly appreciated to help rid us of these pesky beasts. Keep up good work. God bless you and your staff.

Mr. and Mrs. William Ferguson, Rt.

If you have a suggestion for coping with deer flies, pass it to us and we'll share it with the Fergusons and the rest of our r ers. Or, you can write directly to the couple at Rt. 1, Box 114-D, NC 27935.

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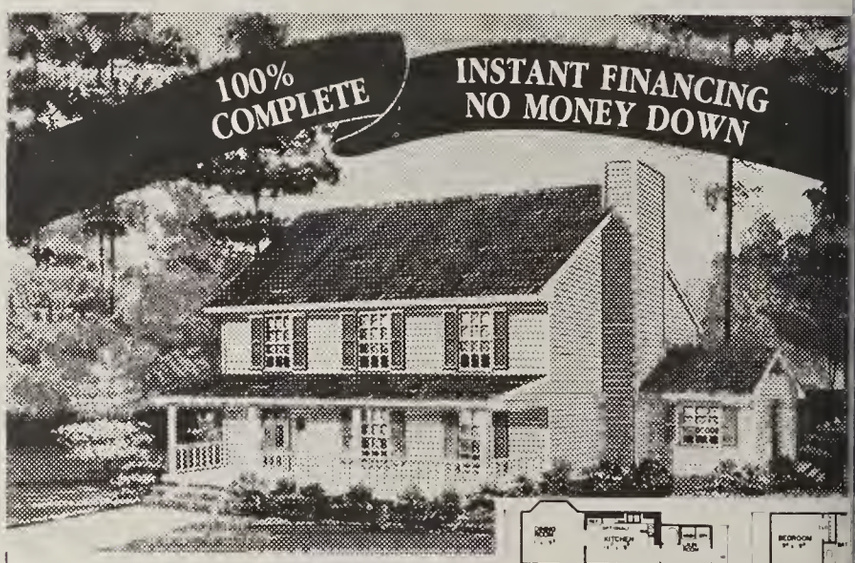

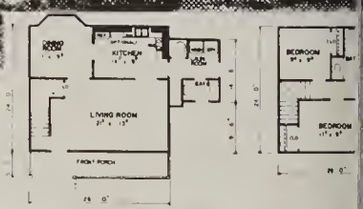

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HERE, THERE & EVERYWHERE

Agency Offers Discounted Prices On Publications

North Carolina's Historical Publications Section has slashed prices on many of its titles in recognition of $1 million in sales over the past eight years.

Since 1982, the publishing branch of the Department of Cultural Resources has released numerous paperbacks ranging in price from $1 to $3 each. These inexpensive books have accounted for much of the sales volume.

Many of the agency's older titles have been reduced as much as 50 percent. For information about the sale publications or other North Carolina titles, write to the Historical Publications Section (N), Division of Archives and History, 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27601.

Chicken Cooking Contest Offers $25,000 Top Prize

The right recipe will earn a $25,000 first prize in the 39th Annual National Chicken Cooking Contest.

Sponsored by the National Broiler Council, the contest will accept entries through Oct. 15.

To qualify, recipes should include broiler-fryer chicken, whole or in a combination of parts, to serve 4-8 people. Grilling is not allowed, and the recipe must allow for the dish to be completely prepared twice within a three-hour period.

Each entry should be on a separate piece of paper with the entrant's name, address and telephone number. Mail entries to Chicken Contest, Box 28158, Central Station, Washington, DC 20005.

NATIONAL CHICKEN COOKING CONTEST©

For a copy of the 127-page booklet of winning entries from the 1989 contest, send a check for $2 to: Chicken Cookbook, N. C. Poultry Federation, 4020 Barrett Dr., Suite 102, Raleigh, NC 27609.

Indian Summer Festival Set

Antique displays, crafts and food will be of interest at the Indian Summer Festival, Sept. 14-15, in Hertford.

The festival will also include a street da sidewalk sales and a plenty of musical ente tainment.

For more information, contact the Per mans County Chamber of Commerce, P.O 27, Hertford, NC 27944. Phone: (919) 426

Museum Offers Dial-A-Schedul Phone Service For Exhibits

Art lovers can make a single phone call to catch up on the latest schedule o exhibits at the North Carolina Museum Art in Raleigh.

The number, (919) 833-NCMA, (9 833-6262, will enable callers to hear a p recorded message detailing exhibits, ed cational and children's programs at the museum.

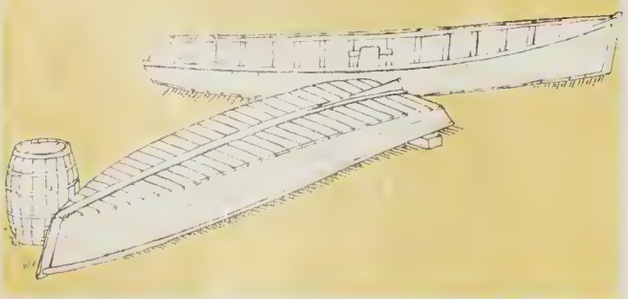
The North Carolina Museum of Art houses art collections owned by the Sta of North Carolina.

Beaufort's Maritime Museum Slates Exhibit Of Photos Of Wooden Boats

A photo exhibit by Benjamin Mendlowitz's photos of wooden boats will be displayed throughout the fall at the North Carolina Maritime Museum in Beaufort.

The exhibit, which will run from Sept. 22 through Dec. 15, has been arranged through the Philadelphia Maritime Museum.

For more information about the exhibit, contact the N. C. Maritime Museum, 315 Front St., Beaufort, NC 28516. Phone: (919) 728-7317.



Festival Planned For Sept. 22-23 At Topsail Beach

More than 100 exhibitors will be displaying their crafts at the 2nd Annual "Autumn With Topsail Beach," Sept. 22-23.

The festival, to take place on the streets of downtown Topsail Beach, will feature food, a plant auction, a children's poster contest, a street dance and a shag contest. Also scheduled is a raffle for prints donated by distinguished artists Bob Timberlake and Jim Harrison.

For more info tion, contact the sail Beach Econ Development C P.O. Box 3250, sail Beach, NC 2

Reunion Sche For Bismarck *Survivors*

Survivors of th *Bismarck* Sea C & VC 86 will ho reunion, Oct. 22 at the Union Pla Hotel in Las Veg

For more info tion, contact Jan Taylor, HC 2, Bo 298W, Canyon L TX 78133. Phon (512) 935-254

rful Kites To Be bited In Statesville

orful Japanese kites righten the Arts ence Center in hibition, Sept. 9 gh Nov. 11, in ville.

e exhibit will e numerous rafted kites apan—of date o early

ry.

For more information, contact the Arts & Science Center, 1335 Museum Road, Statesville, NC 28677. Phone: (704) 873-4734.

Gourd Festival Slated In Cary

Gourds in all shapes and sizes will be featured at the 49th Annual Gourd Festival, Sept. 8-9, in Cary.

The festival, sponsored by the Gourd Village Garden Club and the City Parks and Recreation Department, will feature crafts, movies and music—all with a gourd theme.

The festival will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. the first day; 1-5 p.m., the second.

For more information, write to Mary Ann Rood, 4008 Green Level Road West, Apex, NC 27502.

Waxhaw To Host Antique Fair

Antiques, collectibles, crafts and an international food fest will be just a few of the highlights of the Historic Waxhaw Fall Antique and Craft Fair, Sept. 21-23.

The fair, sponsored by the Waxhaw Fire and Rescue Squads, will run from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. the first two days and from noon to 6 p.m. the final day. There will be no admission charge.

For more information, contact Michael Sasnett, P.O. Box 555, Waxhaw, NC 28173. Phone: (704) 843-4178.

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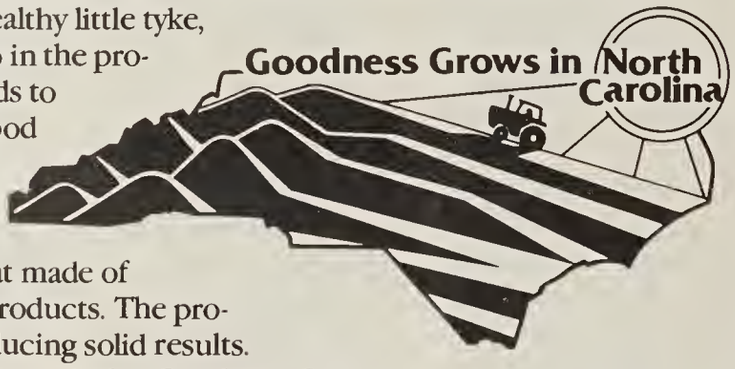
NCDA Program: "Four Years Old And Growin

"Four years old and growing" might describe the proud offspring of a North Carolina family, and it's an appropriate way to categorize the familiar program known as "Goodness Grows in North Carolina."

It's a very healthy little tyke, too. Membership in the program now extends to more than 150 food processors in North Carolina, who produce good things to eat made of native Tar Heel products. The program is also producing solid results. One mark of progress is the *Goodness Grows Cookbook,* which sells at $10.50 a copy. Its sales are now approaching the $60,000 mark and continue at a brisk pace.



Many visitors to the North Carolina State Fair were impressed with the program in the autumn of 1988 and 1989, when it was featured in special exhibits promoting Goodness Grows products.

But the program goes on all year long, and has a distinctive logo to identify top-quality products wherever folks may buy their groceries.

The promotion, directed by the Division of Marketing of the N. C. Department of Agriculture, is absolutely free to those participating. Mrs. Teresa Hamby, who has been program coordinator from its inception, supervises it with assistance from Marketing Director Wayne Miller and his staff.

Suppose you are a North Carolina food processor, and want to get into the promotion. What do you do? There are two basic requirements. First, your product must be "homegrown" in North Carolina. You can qualify if the product is 51 percent from the state, but most products in the program run almost 100 percent.

Participation is free to anyone in North Carolina.

Second, only your premium quality merchandise is eligible for Goodness Grows. If you have two or three quality lines, only the top line may wear the emblem.

If you qualify on these counts, write to Mrs. Teresa Hamby, coordinator, Goodness Grows in North Carolina, Division of Marketing, N. C. Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 27647, Raleigh, NC 27611. Or you can call her at (919) 733-7912.

You don't have to meet any size criteria for your business to participate. Some of the biggest food producers in North Carolina are enrolled: Lundy Packing, House of Raeford, Neese Country Sausage, Pepsi-Cola, House-Autry Mills, Holly Farms and Perdue Poultry.

Dairy processors like Pine State Creamery of Raleigh, Coble Dairy of Lexington, Milkco Dairy (Sealtest) of Asheville and Mello Buttercup Ice Cream of Wilson are all participating.

Also on the list are Lux Farms of Engelhard, who market live crawfish; Wayco of Goldsboro, famous for Waynesboro Country Hams; Stegall Smoked Turkey of Marshville; Blue Sky Fruit Sales of Flat Rock, who sell fresh apple cider; Carter Farms o Rt. 1, Eagle Springs, who offer cantaloupe watermelons, choice tomatoes; McCotter Farms of Vandemere, who is now market sweet corn.

Once you get an application, and fill few details, your application will be judg a panel of experts in the Department of A culture. Once approved, you're immedia eligible to participate in the promotion.

To order a copy of the cookbook, se $12.50, including shipping charges, to N Division of Marketing, Cookbook Dept. P.O. Box 27647, Raleigh, NC 27611.

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Directors Elected At Four Electric Co-ops

total of 11 incumbents and one new- have been elected to the Board of tors of four North Carolina Electric ership Corporations (EMCs) at recent l Meetings:

Blue Ridge EMC, Lenoir—Re-elected James E. McNeil of Rt. 1, Ferguson; G. C. of Rt. 2, Boone; Thomas Cockerham of on and Martha McKnight of Sparta. fficers for the coming year are: Johnnie tin of Rt. 4, Boone, president; Thomas rham, vice president; Charles A. Sud- of Rt. 5, Lenoir, secretary-treasurer and Woodruff of Sparta, assistant secretary- rer.

Halifax EMC, Enfield—Re-elected Raymond Sykes of Rt. 2, Whitakers; t A. Harris of Littleton and Richard H. e of Warrenton.

. W. King of Rt. 1, Warrenton and A. G. x of Rt. 3, Enfield, announced their nents recently. King had served on the board for 38 years, while Willcox had l for 28 years. Both men were named ors Emeritus.

heir positions on the board will be elimi- as part of a reorganization effort at the

fficers for the coming year are: Morrell of Rt. 1, Enfield, president; Robert A. , vice president; Plummer F. Hardy of nfield, secretary-treasurer and Helen ning of Rt. 2, Scotland Neck, assistant ary-treasurer.

Harkers Island EMC, Harkers —Re-elected were Lloyd Michaels and alter. Newly elected was Loretta Law- succeeding George L. Nelson, who not to seek re-election. Nelson had l on the co-op board for nine years. fficers for the coming year are: Lloyd els, president; Leland W. Yeomans, vice ent; Louis Salter, secretary and George ton, treasurer.

Randolph EMC, Asheboro—Re- d were William Comer of Rt. 2, Sea- Bobby D. Wright of Rt. 1, Asheboro and Kennedy of High Falls.

Officers for the coming year are: Charles Teague of Rt. 1, Seagrove, president; Bobby D. Wright, vice president and Larry Routh of Rt. 1, Franklinville, secretary-treasurer.

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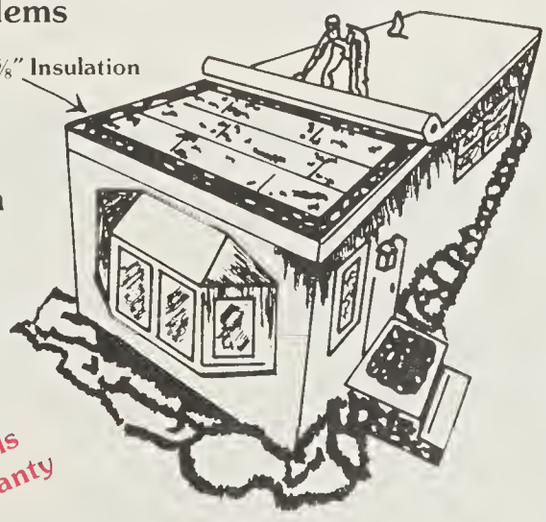

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Lightning: Nature's Most Destructive Forc

Though the countryside is a lovely place to make a home, it has its natural disadvantages.

One of them is nature's most destructive force, lightning, which poses three special drawbacks to people with rural addresses:

- The average house in the country commands a larger site than a typical city lot, and it is more prominent on the landscape. This gives it a somewhat greater chance of being struck by lightning than a similar house in the city.

See related item in "Scrapbook," page 28.

- Statistics show that a house in the country is about twice as likely to burn to the ground if ignited by a lightning "hot bolt" than is its city counterpart, because of distance from firefighting units.
- Country homes are serviced by longer utility lines—electric, telephone and cable television. This results in exposure to more potentially destructive lightning-caused power surges over those utility lines.

As a result, rural property owners receive more attention from lightning protection salesmen and installers than do their counterparts in the city. That's fine, provided the company the caller represents is a able, knowledgeable organization that you can depend upon if you choose to have your property protected. The more the property ow understands about lightning and its dangers, the better equipped he she will be to weigh proposals for lightning protection.

Just what is lightning? It's the result of a separation of electrical charges in the atmosphere. It is a huge electric spark between one charge center and another with the opposite charge. About one ligh flash in three occurs between the bottom of a thundercloud and ear The other two are cloud-to-cloud lightning discharges.

Thunder is the sound of lightning's tremendous flow of electric current, as it explodes the air around the cloud-to-ground current p

Scientists say about two-thirds of all lightning flashes are "cold bolts," during which thousands of amperes of current—at millions volts—flow to ground at a speed as high as one-fifth the speed of ligh That's too fast for heat to build up enough to set wood afire. "Cold b can cause severe structural damage and can set off flammable gases pors. "Hot bolts" include at least one long-duration flow of lightning rent that applies heat long enough to ignite flammable building mat

Many farm structures have been struck and damaged by lightni Some were never protected in the first place; others may have been with improper lightning rod systems by itinerant operators. In still o cases, the system's components may have been damaged or neglecte

To be sure your property is adequately protected, you must inve in a well-designed, properly installed lightning rod system and then resolve to keep your system is in good repair.

The Lightning Pro tion Institute (LPI), wi tests and certifies mast installers and designer lightning protection, li seven main requireme for the LPI Certified Li ning Protection Syste Elements of a certified ning rod system are:

1. Lightning rods terminals) properly lo on the roof and other h points to draw any ligh ning discharge.
2. Main conducto connecting air termina and providing multiple resistance paths to gro
3. Branch condu to bond metal bodies roof or in the building the main lightning con

stem. This prevents lightning sideflashes between the metal objects ghtning conductors.

. Ground terminals and common grounding with electrical or service grounds to cause lightning current to dissipate harmlessly ground. The grounding system must be based on soil conditions. nd loam soils are highly conductive, thus requiring a less extensive ding system than soils with a high content of sand, gravel or rock.

. Secondary lightning surge arrestors to prevent damage to elec- iring, appliances and motors from high waves of current.

. Protection of adjacent or nearby structures.

. An annual inspection and maintenance procedure.

he LPI suggests that when you buy lightning protection, accept roperly prepared proposals, containing drawings and details you mpare to other bids. Detailed proposals are the mark of a con- ious contractor. Be sure in comparing prices that you are compar- ual systems. Be sure you thoroughly investigate the bidders and uppliers or manufacturers, if there is any question about their ntials.

e particularly cautious if a lightning rod salesman claims "you don't PI system certification." Such a statement may mean the salesman 't want you to have a chance to look over your system, or that he t kept pace with lightning protection advances and code changes, ight leave your property only partially protected.

Be aware that lightning protection technology is a specialty requiring education and training. For instance, an LPI-certified master installer must have three years of experience, or a combination of schooling and experience, before he may take the two-day series of written tests for certification.

Be wary if demand for full payment is made upon completion of the lightning rod installation; hold a portion of the payment until the LPI certificate and any other promised documents are received.

Finally, arrange for systematic inspection of your lightning protection system to make sure that rods, conductors and other components have not been damaged.

This article was adapted from material prepared by Marvin M. Frydenlund, managing director of the Lightning Protection Institute in Woodstock, Ill. For more information on lightning protection, the institute offers a 16-page booklet, Lightning Protection for Home, Family and Property. *To receive a copy, send $1 and a stamped, self-addressed business-size envelope to LPI Booklets, P.O. Box 1039, Woodstock, IL 60098.*

Facts And Figures

ghtning Speed: 90,000 Miles Per Second

- Lightning travels through the air at 90,000 miles per cond, almost half the speed of light.
- Lightning causes more electrical power failures in the ited States than any other source.
- Lightning can blow holes in the ground and split rocks in lf.
- The temperature of lightning can reach up to 54,000 grees F.
- On average, about 2,000 thunderstorms are occurring on th every minute. Lightning strikes the ground worldwide about 0 times every second. The average thunderstorm produces three 20 flashes of lightning every minute. A severe storm can produce tween 500 and 1,000 flashes per minute.
- A single flash of lightning develops a million times the volt- e used in ordinary house wiring.
- When a lightning bolt hits a tree, the moisture inside boils d the tree splits apart.
- The width of a single stroke of lightning can range from one- rd of an inch to a foot. The length of that stroke can be from 500 t to 2 miles.
- North Carolina ranks fourth in the nation in lightning-re- ed deaths. The top three are Florida, Kentucky and Kansas. rida, which records nearly 90 thunderstorms a year, has what alled a "lightning alley"—a path from Tampa to Daytona Beach.

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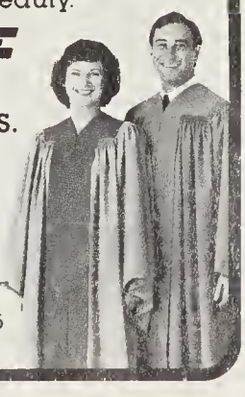

"Power Guard" Refunds Offered

North Carolina consumers who bought a so-called "energy saving" surge suppressor from Solar Sales, Inc., of Fort Lauderdale, FL, can receive a refund as a result of a recent court ruling.

A North Carolina court ordered the firm to stop selling the "Power Guard" device as an instrument that would save consumers money on their power bills.

The company admitted no wrong-doing but agreed to cancel purchase contracts and make refunds in North Carolina.

Solar Sales must pay $15,000 in civil penalties and $10,000 in legal and investigative costs. The company was also required to produce for court approval reliable scientific evidence validating future energy-saving claims for its product.

State Attorney General Lacy Thornburg said the device is worthless, and the company took advantage of people who were not familiar with electrical engineering.

To obtain a refund, consumers must write to Solar Sales at 700 NW 57th Place, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309, for instructions on how the refunds will be handled.

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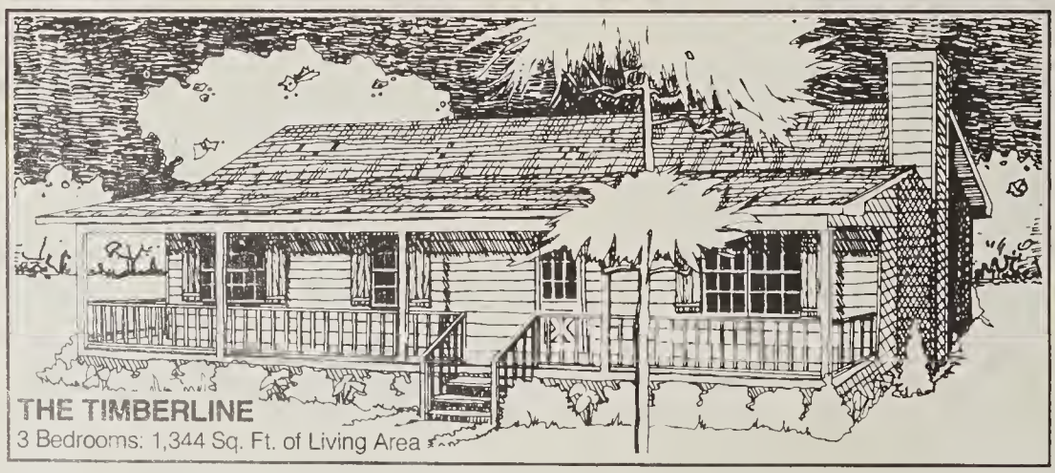

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)90 Youth Tour: A Busy Week In Washington

A week of busy activities greeted the 39
h Carolina high school students who partic-
d in the 1990 Rural Electric Youth Tour to
iington.

Spare time was in short supply during the
: as the Tar Heel students saw many of the
s in the nation's capital: the Washington
iment, Arlington National Cemetery,
isonian Institute and Mount Vernon—to
: just a few.

The tourists, who were sponsored on the
y various North Carolina Electric Member-
Corporations (EMCs), also learned about
vorkings of a cooperative, operating their
"soda pop co-op," which supplied soft
s to the students at more attractive prices
those charged for vending machine bev-
es. *(See related stories on pages 16 and 17,*
iore details.)

Tar Heel Tourists board the Spirit of Washington *for a cruise down the Potomac River.*

"The soda pop co-op was really helpful because it was a working model of a co-op," said Locke Karriker of Rt. 1, Bolivia, who represented Brunswick EMC, Shallotte. "It also saved us a lot of money."

"It was useful because at times you couldn't get a soda in the hotel," said Brian Suttles of Rt. 3, Wallace, who represented Four County EMC, Burgaw.

Serving as the co-op's manager was Roderick (Rock) Tillery of Rocky Mount, who represented Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, Tarboro.

"The co-op gave me a chance to be good friends with everybody," he said. "It also educated all of us in the cooperative way."

The youth tourists also were able to meet some of the 1,000 other students from throughout the country. Collectibles and pins were quickly exchanged with youths from other states and soon became scarce items.

Michelle Williams of Rt. 3, Lenoir, representing Blue Ridge EMC, Lenoir, collected about 50 items.

"I met so many people from around the United States," she said. "I loved the trip and I'd do it again anytime."

But, of course, the friendships that developed among the tourists during the trip stood out for many students.

Said Tracie Shepard of Rt. 3, Jacksonville, who represented Jones-Onslow EMC, Jacksonville: "I met people I will be friends with for life, and learned things I will never forget."

Color photos by Dan Cook

n Brown of Swansboro works
brass rubbing at the National
edral. ▶

bers of the North Carolina
h Tour joined other tourists at
rave of President John F.
iedy at Arlington National
etery. The group also visited
nt Vernon, the Smithsonian
ums, the Kennedy Center and
us other attractions. ▼

Students from the North Carolina Rural Electric Youth Tour visited with members of the Tar Heel congressional delegation while visiting Washington. These three paid a call on Fifth District Rep. Stephen Neal. From the left are Stephanie Poole of Rt. 2, Wilkesboro; Rep. Neal; David Phillips of Rt. 2, West Jefferson and Meeka Royal of Rt. 4, Sparta. The students were sponsored on the tour by Blue Ridge EMC, Lenoir.

Watauga Student Gets National Post

A Watauga County high school student has been selected as North Carolina's representative to the Youth Consulting Board (YCB) of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

Josh Stanberry, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Scott Stanberry of Boone, was selected for the board post from among the 39 Tar Heel rising high school seniors who participated in the 1990 Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington.

The national youth board participates in various programs of the association and serves as an advisory group regarding youth activities.

Stanberry, who attends Watauga High School, was sponsored on the tour by Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation (EMC), Lenoir.

While on the Youth Tour, Stanberry served as president of the Board of Directors of the student-owned "soda pop co-op," which supplied soft drinks to the youth group at affordable prices.

Selected as YCB alternate was Angela Banks of Goldsboro, who represented Tri-County EMC, Dudley.

Banks, the daughter of Mrs. Hilda Banks, attends Southern Wayne High School.

She served as assistant manager of the "soda pop co-op" while on the tour.

The YCB honor gave Banks an opportunity to represent North Carolina's EMCs at the National Institute for Cooperative Education in St. Paul, MN, in July.

3 Co-Editors Name For Tour Newslett

Three North Carolina Rural Electric Yo Tour participants have been named co-edit of the group's newsletter, *Post Washington*.

Chosen as editors were: Kelly Shaw of Cherryville, representing Rutherford Electr Membership Corporation (EMC), Forest C Melissa Johnson of Rt. 2, Garland, represent Four County EMC, Burgaw and Michelle Wi liams of Rt. 3, Lenoir, representing Blue Rid EMC, Lenoir.

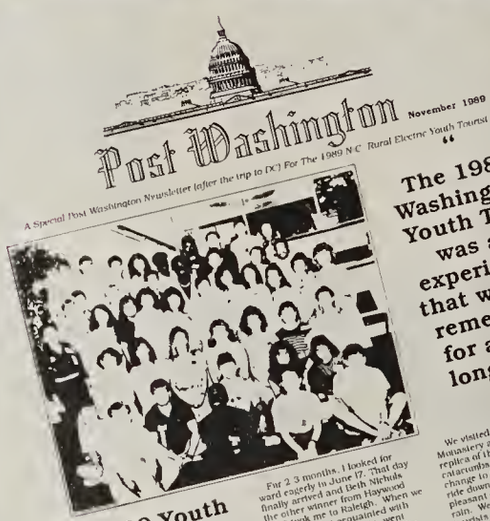
The *Post Washington* newsletter, whic is distributed during the summer after the June tour of Washington, contains the touri articles, essays, poems and photos related t the trip.

The new editors will produce the third edition of the newsletter, which was first pu lished after the 1988 tour.

Kelly Shaw

Melissa Johnson

Michelle Wi



Post Washington

November 1989

A Special Post Washington Newsletter (after the trip to DC) For The 1989 N.C. Rural Electric Youth Tourist

1989 Youth Tour to Washington DC

by Steve Littaller

"The 1989 Washington Youth Tour was an experience that we will remember for a very long time"

Get Leadership Roles In 'Soda Pop Co-op'

Seven North Carolina high school students
esenting five of the state's Electric Member-
Corporations (EMCs) were selected for
rship roles in the 1990 Rural Electric Youth
s "soda pop co-op."

Owned and operated by the 39 Tar Heel
n Tour participants, the soft drink coopera-
ave the rising high school seniors a "hands-
earning experience demonstrating how
eratives work. It also provided the group
affordable soft drinks during a week-long
o Washington.

A $1 membership fee was charged to each
Youth Tour participants, with canned soft
s priced at 40 cents each—far less than
ington prices, which can be almost
r can.

At the end of the tour, the co-op was dis-
ed. After covering expenses and other
ting costs, margins were refunded to the
bers. These "capital credits" amounted to
ts per can.

The co-op was operated by a five-member
l of Directors, with day-to-day operations handled by a manager and an assistant manager.

Tillery

Serving as the co-op's manager was Roderick (Rock) Tillery of Rocky Mount, representing Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, Tarboro. Angela Banks of Goldsboro, representing Tri-County EMC, Dudley, served as the co-op's assistant manager.

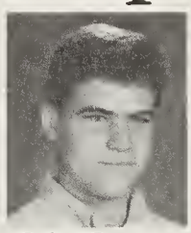
a Banks

Making up the co-op's Board of Directors were: Josh Stanberry of Boone; Stephanie Poole of Rt. 2, Wilkesboro and Michelle Williams of Rt. 3, Lenoir, all representing Blue Ridge EMC, Lenoir; Brian Brown of Swansboro, representing Jones-Onslow EMC, Jacksonville and Julie Hall of Forest City, representing Rutherford EMC, Forest City.

anberry

Stephanie Poole

Michelle Williams


Brian Brown

Julie Hall

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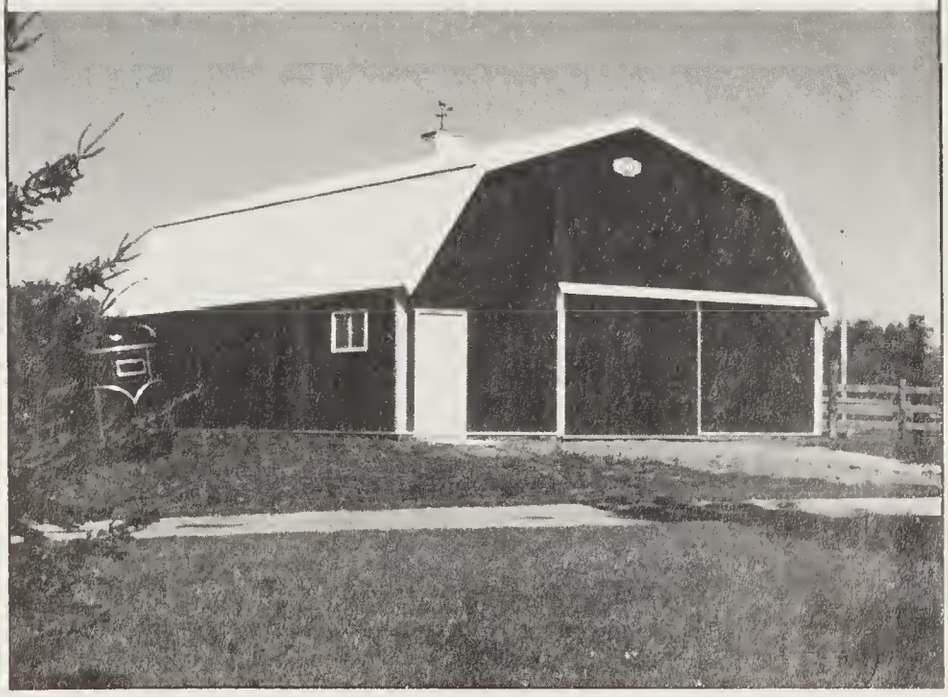

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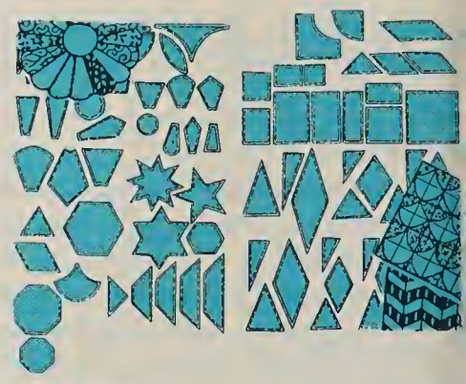

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Fruity Oatmeal Muffins

Submitted by Frances McDaniel, Indian Trail

3/4 C. milk
1/2 C. vegetable oil
1 egg
1 C. all-purpose flour
1 C. quick cooking oats
1/3 C. sugar
1 Tbsp. baking powder
1/2 Tsp. salt (optional)
1/2 Tsp. cinnamon
1/2 Tsp. nutmeg
1 C. raisins or citron or fruit of choice, or 1 C. low sugar orange marmalade
1 Tsp. lemon flavoring (optional)

Heat oven to 400 degrees, grease bottom only of muffin tins or use paper baking cups. Beat egg, oil and milk. Combine remaining ingredients and add at once to milk mixture. Combine just until flour is moistened. Batter will be lumpy. Divide batter equally in muffin cups. Sprinkle with brown sugar if desired. Bake until golden brown, 18 to 20 minutes. Remove from pan immediately.

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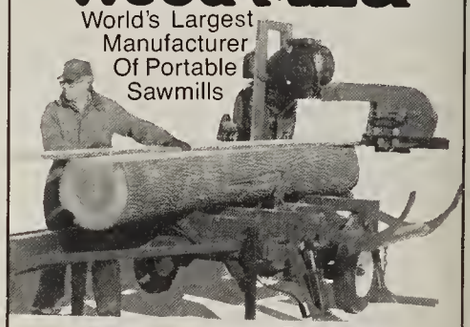

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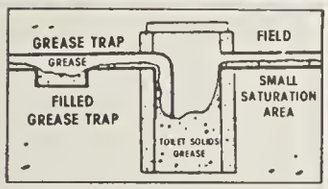

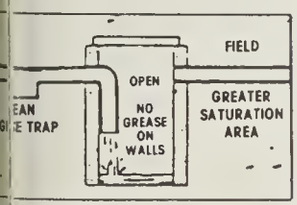

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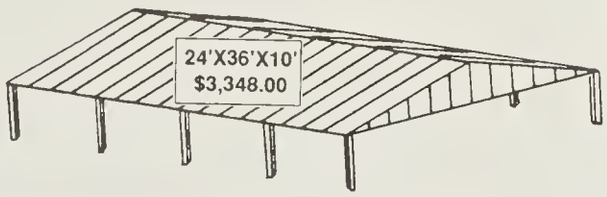

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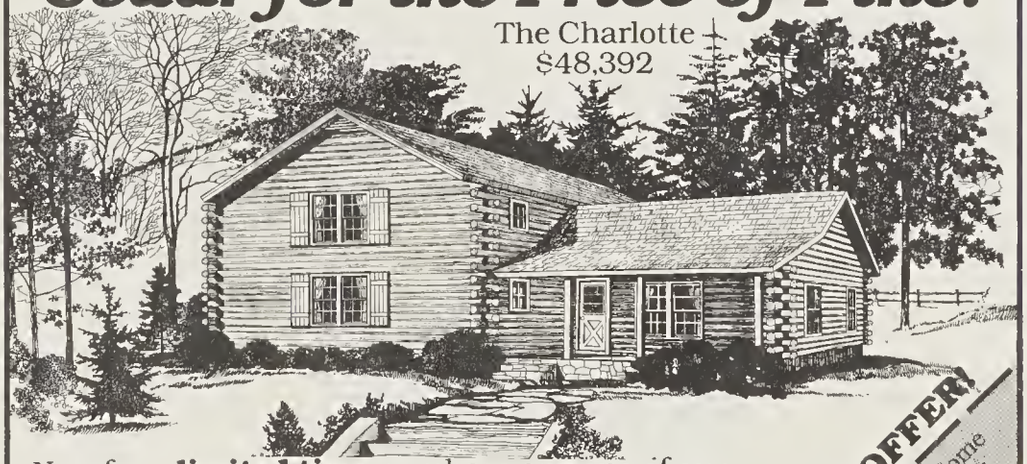

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Annual Meetings Calendar

Date	Electric Membership Corporation	Time	Location
September			
22	Albemarle, Hertford	Registration: 12:30 p.m. Business Meeting: 2:00 p.m.	Perquimans High School, Hertford
28	Central, Sanford	Registration: 6:00 p.m. Business Meeting: 7:30 p.m.	Lee Senior High School Auditorium, Sanford
29	Carteret-Craven, Morehead City	Registration: 6:00 p.m. Business Meeting: 7:30 p.m.	West Carteret High School, Morehead City

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BOOKS

Damn The Allegators by Joseph E. Carter. S published. 199 pages. $14.95, hardcover; $8 softcover.

This book about revenue agents raidi whiskey stills might be labeled "R" for rau for realistic; even for readable.

Joseph E. Carter of Albemarle, "Joltin' to many who knew him, gives us an intima look into his life as a ready-to-fight deputy s as a military reservist, but mostly as an age the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firear (ATF) of the U. S. Treasury Department.

Carter, who ended his 18 years of fed law enforcement back in 1973, describes s escapades that he admits were on the shad of the law.

Example: What is a "dropper?" A drop a pistol with no identifying marks which, i you're compelled to shoot an unarmed pe you can "drop" and claim that the person actually armed.

Another example: He says law enforc officials may not constantly violate laws "in to better enforce the laws. This is the exce rather than the rule. But it is done frequen

The title of the book is the abbreviate form of the famous political comment: "D allegation, and damn the allegators," and is way of expressing a defiant attitude towar many of our laws and regulations.

The book has plenty of action, and vir all of it takes place in North Carolina—fro hills of Wilkes County to the coast.

The author has a very retentive mem and he regales you with stories of still raid being threatened by large groups of irate c zens—who were taking up for bootlegger friends—law enforcement by fisticuffs an chases that would make good TV scripts. H even tells of local authorities who refused work with federal agents, sometimes even ing suspects that a raid was in the offing.

The author emerges as a sort of self-c scribed hero, pictured as a medium-sized who beats one or more large and hostile f with his two fists, and also as a strategist w frequently outwits some of the cleverest p ducers of "white lightning."

Language in *Damn the Allegators* is r

BOOKS

y the least. No board of censors edited the
before it was published. The title is a mild
nple.

The book gives you a good look at a world
of us have seen only at a distance, if at all.
the fact that all the adventures happened 20
) years ago does not dim the timeliness of
Carter's tales.

The volume is available in some North Caro-
)ookstores but may be ordered directly from
uthor at P. O. Drawer 1119, Albemarle, NC
)2. Add $2 for shipping for each copy
red.

—Frank Jeter Jr.

---

dy Travis by Don Cusic. St. Martin's Press.
)ages (ill.). $8.95.

Early in 1986, Randy Travis of Marshville
working in a night club kitchen, singing out
and playing some out-of-town bookings.

That April, he won his first music award
n October, he picked up the first of what
roved to be a long string of major awards.

After living above a store in Nashville as he
ied his career for years, that fall he and his
ager bought a 63-acre spread outside Nash-
paying $250,000 for the place. Travis had
arrived.

Not bad for former juvenile delinquent
y Traywick, who has matured into a fine
rmer who's known as "king of the new
try traditionalists."

This illuminating biography faces squarely
the rumors about the relationship
een the star and Lib, his manager, who gave
sband and marriage to help Travis find star-
It provides no answers. It's equally honest
t the family background, depicting father
d as far from an exemplary role model.

The pull of roots is shown, with Lib at-
ting to anchor the singer in Nashville. The
e world of Nashville music shows up, too.

But what comes through loud and clear is
bering lesson for anyone who takes over-
success from a song and puts it into the
world. It took the superstar from Marshville
of agonizing work, paying his dues, to get
e he is.

—Shirley K. Sullivan

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HANK'S GARDENING GUIDE

Weeding, staking, spraying and watering seem like never-ending tasks in the late summer garden. But you'll not want to neglect any of these.

This is the hold-the-line phase in the garden. It's a good time to take note of those plants that tolerate the heat well so you can make landscape plans to include more of them in next summer's garden.

Shaping Hedges

Late summer is the time to give hedges their final clipping for the season. If clipped later there is the risk of inducing tender new growth that may be injured by cold weather.

Fall Vegetables

For a fall harvest of cabbage, broccoli, lettuce, spinach, turnips, brussel sprouts and onions, plant soon.

Tomato plants for fall gardens are usually hard to find. If vines from your summer crop are still healthy, and you've not removed all the suckers, you're in luck. New plants can be started by taking pencil size cuttings

of suckers. Make cuttings five to seven inches long. After lower leaves have been removed, set the sucker-cuttings in well prepared garden soil. Leave little more than the bud exposed. Give them light shade until growth begins.

Most suckers will begin producing tomatoes right away as they already have bloom buds formed in the stems.

Tidy Garden

Any annuals that have finished blooming should be removed from the flower border and accent beds. But don't be too hasty. Some plants, notably petunias, may look scraggly now. But they will respond with new growth and blooms in late summer and autumn if cut back severely and fed.

You might want to try the "fun project" of rooting cuttings of favorite petunias to carry-over indoors this winter. Make cuttings about four-six-inches long j beneath leaf join Remove lower l and dust the cut root-inducing h mone powder. them in a pot of half clean sand a one-half potting or good rich ga loam. Keep soil With luck, cutti will have strong in about six we Transfer rooted tings to pots of ting soil. You'll head start with ding plants nex spring.

Garden Tips

1. Spray rose bushes every seven to ten days to control insects and diseases.
2. Cut back daylily foliage and divide if clumps have become thick and crowded. Share excess plants with friends and neighbors.
3. Cut back foliage and divide iris rhizones. Share excess with friends and neighbors.
4. Stop pinching small-flowering and bedding-type mums to allow for flower bud set.
5. Begin starting seed for your cool season vegetable garden.
6. Continue to water newly planted trees and shrubs at least twice a week.
7. Fertilize rose bushes.
8. Get a soil test for your lawn before applying lime and fertilizer to your cool season grass.
9. During dry periods, water shallow-rooted plants such as dogwood, azalea and blueberries every four or five days.
10. Fertilize shrubs and trees for the last time until next spring.
11. If necessary, use Round-Up to kill grass and weeds. Read directions on label carefully as Round-Up can damage all plants. Apply only to undesired plants, on a calm day so wind will not drift spray to desired plants.
12. Apply pre-emergence herbicide for control of next year's chickweed.

Azalea Care

Protect azale from drought b ing plants well mulched and w Next year's flow buds already ar so delay any pru until after they next spring.

If leaves of az are looking yell between the ve apply iron chel a foliage spray soil drench.

HANK'S GARDENING GUIDE

t Winter
niums Now

late fall and
r geranium
ıs indoors, start
ıgs now. Healthy
ıgs taken at this
will grow and
re into bloom-
ze plants that
ın enjoy during cold months. To speed up the rooting process apply a root-inducing hormone powder on the base of each cutting.

Perennial Care

Overgrown clumps of perennial flowers can be divided and transplanted now. This includes bearded and Louisiana iris, gloriosa daisies, Shasta daisies and primroses.

Continue to disbud and stake large-flowering show-type dahlias and late-flowering exhibition-type mums.

Bedding Plants

Sow seeds of annual flowering plants such as zinnias, marigolds and celosia. These will produce autumn color.

If petunias are becoming tall and leggy, cut the plants back severely to encourage a flush of new growth and an abundance of fall flowers.

Stake tall-growing annuals and dahlias to prevent damage from high winds.

Feed Asparagus

Before mid-September, you should begin fertilizing asparagus plants so that roots and crowns can store food for next year's crop.

Apply three pounds of a complete general fertilizer to each 100 square feet of soil surface. Spread fertilizer between rows and cultivate it in. Cease cutting asparagus and let it grow up and go to seed.

nding Fruit And Nut Trees

1. Remove any dropped and rotting it to help control insect and disease oblems.
2. Remove weeds and grass from und fruit and nut trees or at least keep as closely mowed.
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4. Remove suckers and water sprouts m fruit and nut trees so fertilizer and isture will be channeled into the devel- nent of next year's fruiting wood.

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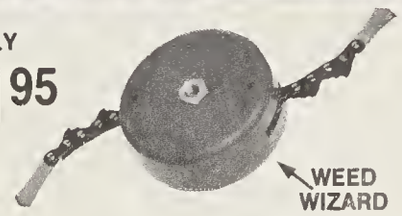

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Enfield Sets Festival To Celebrate Goobers And Town's Anniversary

Musical groups Runner and the Chairman of the Board will be performing at the 4th Annual Enfield Peanut Festival September 22.

The festival will also coincide with the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the Town of Enfield in Halifax County.

The day will be filled with plenty of educational, historical and agricultural exhibits, as well as numerous crafts, displays and ample food. Special entertainment is planned for children.

Enfield's Main Street will serve as the event's gathering place, with festivities running from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Founded in 1740, Enfield was originally known as Huckleberry Swamp. The area has low swampland and many huckleberry bushes.

The town has been a tobacco market but later became the world's largest raw peanut market.

For more information, about the festival, write to Enfield Peanut Festival, P.O. Box 625, Enfield, NC 27823.

Electricity's Convenience: Worth The Price

(Continued from page 3)

to nature—drawing water and chopping wood by hand. Personally, as one who actually had to do that sort of thing in the past, I always dreamed of the day when I would be relieved of those drudgeries—and I wanted to be part of an industry that freed others from those chores.

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- Use an element on the range 30 minutes a day for 18 days
- Cool a frost-free refrigerator for 60 hours
- Use the oven for three hours
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- Wash 66 loads of clothes
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- Run a one-horsepower motor for 16 hours

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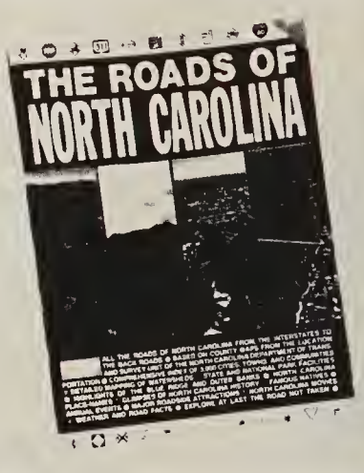

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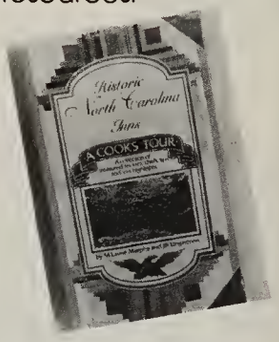

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)mmittee Preparing Continuing Care Policies

he first Advisory Committee to make for North Carolina's newly strengthened ı continuing care facilities has been nted by Insurance Commissioner Jim and has held an inaugural meeting to plans for carrying out its responsibility. he nine members include strong friends r North Carolinians. Professor Harry E. s of Chapel Hill, a moving force in revis- rth Carolina law on continuing care, is table member.

he list also includes:

N. C. Representative Bertha M. (B) f Burlington, who has also been active slation for older folks.

G. William Pleasants of Jamestown, tive director of The Presbyterian Homes.

Dr. John Cameron of Raleigh, who Continuing Care Community Residents th Carolina.

Dr. Walter Ettinger of Winston-Salem, eads the Geriatrics and Internal Medi- ction of the J. Paul Sticht Center on Bowman Gray School of Medicine.

David Lacy of Chapel Hill, Carol Woods ment Community.

Steven R. Martin of Raleigh, Durham, , Jenkins and Company.

Jim Boniface of Charlotte, Freeman Associates.

Mrs. Mary Edith Rogers of Gastonia.

Key actions at the board's first meeting were to draft a Formal Application Package that facilities would be required to complete in order to comply with the new law's disclosure provisions.

After reviewing several Disclosure Statements, the board voted to require standardization of reporting by facility operators. This would meet minimum reporting requirements, ease the process of comparison for people contemplating moving to a continuing care facility, and make sure that all operators meet necessary standards for financial reporting.

The procedures are designed to make information available to consumers so they can use it in making informed decisions about continuing care operations.

For more data on the new law, write or call William C. Darden Jr., manager of the Continuing Care Facilities' Section of the N. C. Department of Insurance. He can be reached at P. O. Box 26387, Raleigh, NC 27611. Phone: (919) 733-5633.

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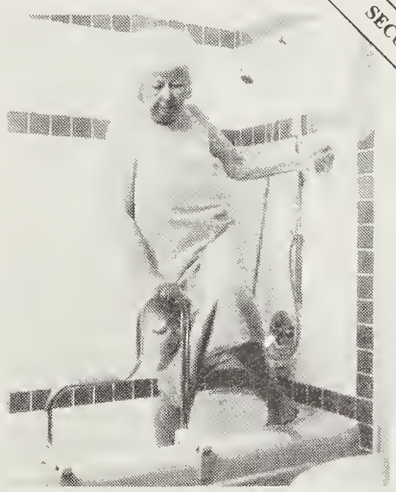

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PRIVACY INDEPENDENCE

Summer Evenings: Memories And Quiet Momen

Summer evenings come quietly in our town—Beaufort-By-The-Sea. Dusk moves in slowly. The sky lightens over the harbor until it seems day has decided to begin again. Colors become more vivid. On the horizon they lengthen and spread—coral, pink, rose and brilliant scarlet blend with lavender and blue to rival any Caribbean sunset.

The gulls circle and dip about the incoming boats. The boardwalk along the waterfront fills with visitors.

After the day's heat, a welcome sea breeze whips the masts of vessels lying at anchor, moves the incoming tide to waves that splash against the breakwater and playfully rearranges "Front Street" hairdos.

On Ann Street the last rays of the sun linger on the slender white steeple of the Methodist Church and peek into bay windows and lattice porches of homes built before the present occupants were born.

It's suppertime. The streets are less traveled. The air is filled with

the smell
fresh cut g
and ham-
burgers o
the grill. (
the sidew
a latecom
hurries h
a jogger g
by, all ripp
muscles a
bare wet
Three bo
lazily tool
their bike
toward th
harbor ar
where a g
of church musicians gather for a "Singing
the Boardwalk."

The six o'clock news is on. Porches empty as residents listen to Rather, Jennin and Brokow describing the state of the w Outside, a police car passes, signaling that our town at least—there is peace and ord

Dusk wraps the town with her soft a like a mother rocking a child to sleep. Nei bors meet over backyard fences for sage c versations on the day's activities or tomor weather forecast. Couples gather childre walks to the waterfront or strike out for a at neighboring homes and gardens.

As darkness falls, the breeze on Pollo Street stirs the oak and elm trees, the mag lia and crepe myrtle. It smells of the sea beyond the inlet and the memory of night blooming jasmine.

Walking east on Front Street you pas town park with its popular dock for swim and benches for the less active. You can w the boats lying at anchor, the lights on th water, the stars. Laughter and music from downtown area compete with a lone mus celebrating his guitar.

This is a time of sea breezes, memor and the quiet moments that come with s town living.

It is evening in our town.

—Carol Bessent Ha

Thunderstorms: A Landlady's Terror

The year was 1938 and I signed on for summer work between college terms working on a six-man survey crew. We surveyed boundaries for land that might become family farms.

The crew was based in Enfield, and we lived in a boarding house. Room and board was $1 a day. The landlady was a pleasant person—and a great cook. Renting rooms helped supplement her husband's wages.

See related feature on lightning, pages 12-13.

She was absolutely terrified of thunderstorms and lightning. Sometimes thunderheads would come up in late afternoon, after the survey crew was done for the day. It was fortunate that her husband was also home from his office.

When the rain began to pour, thunder echoed in the neighborhood and lightning would flash brightly. When this happened, the landlady was completely out of business. Supper, which was usually served promptly at six o'clock, might be delayed.

When the lightning and thunder would begin, the landlady would pull all the window shades all the way down. Then she would go into the dining room, as far away from the windows as she could get, and sit in a chair in the corner.

She would take her apron (we never saw her without an apron) and drape it over her head. When her husband was home, he would come and stand by her, gently patting her shoulder. He would utter small comforting sounds.

This would go on for as long as the thunder and lightning lasted. When it was all over, she'd get up, smooth her apron to its accustomed place, and go on to prepare a delicious supper.

—Frank Jeter

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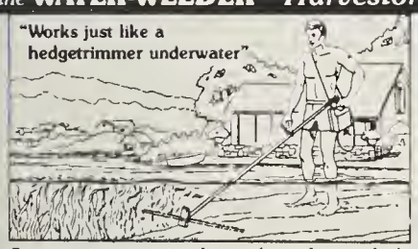

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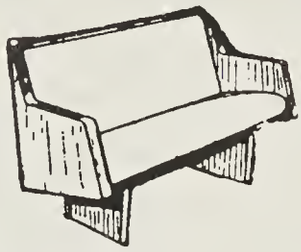

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By Owen E

Street Peddlers Are Sidelined As Book Goes Into Second Printing

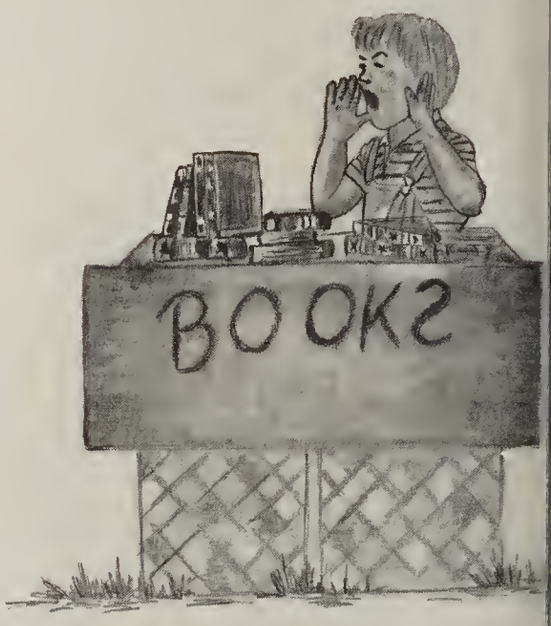
The July column inspired Jeanne Robertson—the notorious 6-foot-2 Miss America Pageant "loser" who was featured in the piece—to write a note expressing her appreciation for the "wonderful article."

She said her book, *The Magic of Genie,* has already sold more than 5,000 copies and has gone into its second printing. As a result, she added, "We have decided to relax a bit and bring in the children from the street corners.

"Much of the success of the project has been due to interest and support from folks like you."

The former Miss North Carolina, who is now a popular professional public speaker, has been booked for a return engagement with the statewide rural electric co-op organization. She'll appear at a banquet during the organization's 1991 Annual Meeting next March.

She said she especially liked the column's "little boxed report of us working together 27 years—yes, TWENTY-SEVEN—years ago. I look forward to our paths crossing again without a 27-year gap."



The hardcover book, published by Ric Publishing Co. of Houston, describes sever "potions" for developing and enhancing a s of humor. And it's full of funny stories abou Jeanne's experiences.

Copies are available at $14.95 each at North Carolina bookstores. However, auto graphed copies are available at the same pr from Jeanne at 2905 Forestdale Drive, Bur ton, NC 27215. Or call her toll-free numbe (800) 962-6268.

Yet Another Error: Strike The "Mr."

Douglass Rudkoff of Rt. 5, Murphy, a reader who was the first to call our attention to the April column's erroneous reference to Morton Dean as a CBS News anchorman (he's with ABC) has spotted yet another error in the June column.

That piece set the record straight about Dean's network and offered a small gift to "Mr. R" for trying to keep us on our toes—if the reader would supply a mailing address.

Strike the "Mr." Douglass is a woman.

She says she wrote to "defend" her name and gender—not to claim her gift.

Douglass (Mrs. William Rudkoff), who is a consumer-member of Blue Ridge Mountain Electric Membership Corporation, Young Harris, GA, said the June item prompted many of her friends to notify her about it.

"One even brought a copy to church."

She said, "I am not identifying myself because of the promise of a free gift—although my eight-year-old grandchild thinks that is an enticement. I am defending my name and gender—I am a woman. My name—a family one—almost landed me in a boys' dorm when I was in graduate school and I have been defending it ever since. To be confused can be an advantage in the business world, but I don't use that advantage often."

She added: "Thanks for the publicity, but *no more,* please. Make someone else famous."

We've mailed the promised gift—along with a pledge to refrain from mentioning Douglass in print again—after this item is published.

Not A Weather Forec

Another beauty queen has been in th news recently. April Storms, 22-year-old d ter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Storms of Bladenb was selected as the state's 1990 Watermel Queen.

Her name would have made her a sh to be crowned queen of the state's meteo cal society if there is one. As it was, the Ca bell University student still came in for a l gentle teasing in the N. C. Department of culture (NCDA) news release about her l from the N. C. Watermelon Association. H its lead: "April Storms. Not a weather fore but the name of the new 1990 North Car Watermelon Queen. . . ."

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